

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 DHA-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /029 W

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R 271711Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1723

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 3410

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINS, ES

SUBJECT: ABDUCTION OF DR. CARLOS A. MADRIZ

REF: STATE 184292

1. LOCAL PRESS ON JULY 16 CARRIED STORY THAT THE KLEILY OF ONE DR. CARLOS ANTONIO MADRIZ MARTINEZ HAD PETITIONED A JUDGE OF THE SECOND CRIMINAL COURT TO OPEN AN INVESTIGATION PROCESS TO DETERMINE THE PHYSICAL WHEREABOUTS OF THE DOCTOR, MISSING SINCE JULY 14. THE FAMILY CLAIMED DR. MADRIZ HAD BEEN FORCEABLY TAKEN FROM HIS HOME BY ARMED MEN, POSSIBLY IN A WOUNDED CONDITION, AND CARRIED OFF. A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS FAILED TO PRODUCE EITHER THE SUBJECT OR FURTHER NEWS. PRESS STORIES DESCRIBED DR. MADRIZ AS 36 YEARS OLD, A RECENT GRADUATE OF MEDICAL SCHOOL AT HAVANA UNIVERSITY, HAVANA, CUBA. HE REPORTEDLY RETURNED TO EL SALVADOR SOME THREE WEEKS BEFORE HIS DISAPPEARANCE. THE FAMILY CLAIMED THE DOCTOR WAS UNINVOLVED IN POLITICS, BUT THE IMPLICATION OF THEIR EFFORTS TO LOCATE HIM IS THAT THEY BELIEVE HE WAS PICKED UP BY ONE OR ANOTHER GOVERNMENT SECURITY SERVICE.

2. BEGIN FYI. DATT HAS BEEN TOLD INFORMALLY BY HIS CONTACTS THAT DR. MATRIZ IS RPT IS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE NATIONAL GUARD. HE IS SAID TO BE UNDERGOING INTERROGATION, SUSPECTED OF HAVING PLAYED A PART IN THE DECEMBER 1975 KIDNAPPING OF WEALTHY BUSINESSMAN BENJAMIN SOL MILLET. THE BACKGROUND OF THE DOCTOR'S ARREST, AS BEST EMBASSY CAN PIECE THE STORY TOGETHER GIVEN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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TOTAL SECRECY SURROUNDING THE CASE, IS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) SOL MILLET WAS RELEASED, UNHARMED, ON JANUARY 4, 1976 AFTER HIS FAMILY PAID AN UNDISCLOSED AMOUNT OF RANSOM (ESTIMATES RUN FROM 2 TO 3 MILLION DOLLARS). THE SOL MILLET FAMILY HAS STEADFASTLY REFUSED TO COOPERATE WITH THE GOES, OR REVEAL ANY DETAILS OF THE CONDITIONS OF RELEASE.

(B) SOMETIME IN JUNE, THE SECURITY FORCES GOT ON THE TRAIL OF A SUSPECT. HE APPARENTLY LED THEM TO A HOUSE WITH TWO OTHERS, AND SOME 3-400,000 RALONES (120-160,000 DOLLARS) OF THE RANSOM MONEY. THIS "BREAKING" OF THE SOL MILLET CASE WAS NOT MADE PUBLIC. NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN ARREST WAS ISSUED, THE SUSPECTS JUST DISAPPEARED ONE DAY. THEY WERE HELD AND INTERROGATED BY THE HACIENDA POLICE. WHETHER THEY DIED UNDER INTERROGATION, OR WERE SUMMARILY EXECUTED LATER, IS NOT KNOWN, BUT THEY TURNED UP DEAD IN LATE JUNE. THE MEDIA OF JUNE 30 CARRIED STORIES OF THE DISCOVERY OF THREE "UNIDENTIFIED" BODIES NEAR QUEZALTEPEQUE. THESE WERE LATER IDENTIFIED AS: LAZARO MERINO RAMOS, JOSE DE LA PAZ SALMERON RAMIREZ AND LUIS ALONSO PEREZ. NO CONNECTION HAS BEEN MADE, EITHER OFFICIALLY OR IN THE NORMALLY ALERT POLITICAL RUMOR MILLS, BETWEEN THE THREE BODIES AND ANY SECURITY INVESTIGATION.

(C) PRESUMABLY, AND THIS IS EMBASSY SPECULATION, ONE OR ANOTHER OF THESE THREE IMPLICATED DR. MADRIZ. END FYI.

MOSKOWLMZ

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, PINS, (MADRIZ MARTINEZ, CARLOS ANTONIO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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